



Minutes of the
British Weight Lifting Board Meeting

Venue: BWL, First Floor Office, St Ann's Mill, Commercial St, Leeds
Date: Wednesday 9 March 2016
Start: 1.00pm.

Present: Peter Rowley (PWR), Ashley Metcalfe (AM), Catherine Eastham (CE), David Knaggs (DK), Mark Martin (MM), Patrick Roberts (PR), Stewart Cruikshank (SC).

In attendance: Tommy Yule (TY) for items 1 – 5, David Gent (DG) for items 1 - 6.

1. General

1.1 Chairman's Welcome

PWR welcomed all to the meeting, declared the meeting quorate, outlined the key items of the agenda and reminded members that discussions at the meeting were confidential and none of the proceedings should be disclosed to third parties without his prior written approval in accordance with the directors' code of conduct that all members had signed.

1.2 Apologies

Apologies had been received from Malcolm Boyd (MB), Mike Irani (MI), Guy Taylor (GT), and Michele Verroken (MV).

2. Declarations of Interest

PWR reminded members of the need to declare their interest in any items requiring a decision. PWR drew members' attention to his role with Sport England and Coachwise Ltd. No other or new declarations of interest were declared. Members noted the current register of interests circulated previously and PWR asked members to return Declaration of Interests Forms issued previously to AM so that the register may be updated.

3. Minutes of the previous meeting and matters arising

The minutes of the Board meeting held on 9 December 2015 circulated previously were agreed as read.

PWR informed members that holding an open forum during the British Championships seemed impractical. The possibility of holding the AGM in September following a board meeting was still being considered. Members noted that the company had registered for VAT with effect from 1 January 2016. There were no matters arising not appearing elsewhere on the agenda.

4. Decisions taken outside the Board Meeting

Members noted the approval of the BWL Privacy policy electronically. AM thanked all those who had responded, particularly DK.

5. Performance and UK Sport update

TY presented upon Olympic qualification and the athletes selected for the European Championships (the final Rio qualifier); Paralympic qualification, for which 3 athletes had qualified and the possibility of a 4th; the annual review by and submission to UK Sport of our strategy for Tokyo 2020 by 14 March and the indicative funding award, for which AM tabled an executive summary **which was approved**; development and talent identification, part of which was the establishment of a National Youth Squad; and the Final Year (2016/17) World Class Programme budget summary.

TY also responded to various observations and questions from board members, including those raised on behalf of GT by PWR.

TY left the meeting.

6. Sport Development, Coach Education and Sport England Review

DG informed board members upon sport development, in particular the work of the Regional Development Officers; the positive response to the TCRR launch; the English and National Age Group Championships; the inclusion of weight lifting in the AfPE Guide and partnerships with AoC and DoE; the continuing progress and popularity of Reebok Archon; the final testing and the imminent launch of Sport 80, the new membership provider; the launch of our crowdfunding initiative with Sponsorise; and continuing membership growth.

DG also updated the board on a successful annual review by Sport England; positive Active People Survey results; DCMS' "Sporting Future" Strategy document and the possible implications of Sport England's emerging strategy; market mapping; substantial progress in coaching education (achievement of the 2015/2016 income target with income 11% up on the previous year); substantial increases in the numbers of tutors and delivery centres; agreements with overseas centres in the Middle East, Eire, Hong Kong and Singapore; the

collaborative work with other NGBs; REPs recognition of courses; the increasing volumes of new learners; and the development of new qualifications, including the development of Weight Lifting Learning and the education pathway.

Thereafter, DG focussed upon coach education, in particular the bridging course and generally positive response, including UKCC endorsement but noting some adverse comment on social media; the impending course for Technical Officials; the OCR awards; development of new products with SCUK; and developing relationship with the Prisons Service, private deliverers and the Armed Forces.

DG informed members that regional representatives were to meet at Loughborough on 15 March to progress the English Regions Group (ERG). Members noted with disappointment the preference of the Northern Region not to take up their invitation to the meeting. He and AM also updated matters on a number of matters pertaining to the Home Nations' bodies.

DG then responded to a number of observations and questions from members. In particular, PWR represented the views of MB and the possibility of some coaches being mis-informed about the bridging course and adverse reaction from a limited number of members relating thereto, but **it was agreed that** demand for the course to date indicated that the £35 cost was not a barrier to take-up and that the fee for technical officers would be rebated upon officials undertaking 2 national events and the British Seniors in Coventry.

DG then left the meeting.

7. Minutes and recommendations from sub-committees

7a Performance Group

PWR informed members on behalf of GT that GT had attended UK Sport's review meeting with TY and AM updated members on the progress made with athletes' representation on the group. Sufficient applications had been received to require an athletes' ballot.

7b Commercial and Development Group

CE reported that travel difficulties had prevented the group from convening, but that she hoped to arrange a meeting shortly.

7c Finance and General Purposes Group

PR reported upon the Group's meeting on 25 February 2016, wherein the risk register circulated with the agenda and other papers had been reviewed, upon which a number of comments were made. **It was agreed to include the possibility of health risks at Rio to the register and the risk framework as presented, together with the Group and Board monitoring processes were approved.** PWR thanked the Group for developing the framework.

8. Finance Matters and Update

8a Management Accounts for January 2016

MM referred to the papers circulated previously, the summary income and expenditure accounts to 31 January 2016 inclusive of various slides presented to members at the meeting. Following improved performance, likely to be built upon in February and that the company was on target to achieve budgeted surplus by the year-end. PWR stressed the achievement that this would represent given the costs incurred in defending the sport against contentious actions by a member in 2014.

Members noted the position.

8b Forward budget for 2016/17

MM presented the draft budget for 2016/2017, outlining the cautious assumptions given the uncertainty of the new strategy that seemed likely to be adopted by Sport England. A discussion ensued, following which **the budget for the year commencing 1 April 2016 was approved.**

9. Risk register

Dealt with under 7c above.

10. CEO's update

AM referred to his comprehensive report circulated previously, most of which was for information only, but drawing members' attention in particular to meetings with the IWF, EWF and IPC. Following AM's detailed review of candidates, **AM was authorised to cast BWL's vote for the candidate preferred at the EWF Congress in April. AM was also authorised to continue to represent BWL at the BOA and BPA.**

The complaints log and the continuing matter with one complainant was noted, upon which DK provided a commentary.

11. Chairman's update

PWR referred to the papers circulated previously for information. He undertook to secure a speaker for the next meeting.

12. Any Other Business

PR reminded members of the need to undertake an annual performance review of the Chair and undertake to coordinate the exercise, for which he received the thanks of members.

13. Date of next Meeting

The next meeting will be 10 June 2016 at the Ricoh Stadium, Coventry.

The meeting closed at 4.50 pm.

The date of the September 2016 meeting clashes with the Paralympics, so AM will seek of members' availability for another date later that month. The venue will be Northumbria University, Newcastle, courtesy of GT.